



Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of Governor Bob McDonnell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2012

Virginia Executive Mansion

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**Governor McDonnell Helps Kick-Off Hunger
Action Month**

*Event at the Executive Mansion draws Virginians committed to end
Hunger in the Commonwealth*



RICHMOND – Governor McDonnell and the seven members of the Federation of Virginia Food Banks will gather at the Executive Mansion at 1:30 PM on September 4, 2012 to kick off a month of hunger-focused events throughout the Commonwealth. The public is invited to attend, wear orange, and join the effort to Speak Out Against Hunger™. Everyone participating is invited to join the Governor at the Executive Mansion for a group photograph.

To help bring attention to the event and hunger in Virginia, Governor McDonnell has challenged his staff to donate \$3 to dress down and wear orange on September 4. Proceeds will be donated to the Federation of Virginia Food Banks. The Governor's office encourages all Virginians to follow the Governor's example by donating \$3 to dress down and wear orange.

Speaking about Hunger Action Month, Governor McDonnell said, "As we kick off Hunger Action Month, Virginia's food banks need our support more than ever. I want to encourage all Virginians to support their local food bank, whether it's by volunteering at a local facility, donating food items, or providing monetary support. Together, we can help continue the important services of the Food Banks that positively impact the lives of those in great need across the Commonwealth."

Hunger is a real issue in Virginia, with 1 in 4 individuals struggling to feed their families. In this difficult economic environment, individuals and families are facing difficult decisions as they try to make ends meet every month. The Federation of Virginia Food Banks and partner agencies work every day to make sure those decisions do not include whether or not there will be food on the table for families.

Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, has identified September as Hunger Action Month with the color ORANGE symbolizing hunger in our country. The network of over 200 Feeding America food banks and their partner agencies will be mobilizing their regions to take part again this year in the "30 Days, 30 Ways" calendar campaign to play a role in ending hunger in their community. The calendar suggests simple things we can all do each day to raise awareness.

Please visit hungeractionmonth.org to learn how you can Speak Out Against Hunger™.

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